REMARKS

Pursuant to the present amendment, claim 38 has been amended and claims 43-44 have been canceled. Thus, claims 38-42 and 45-50 are pending in the present application. No new matter has been introduced by way of the present amendment. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein.

Claims 45-50 stand allowed.

In the Office Action, claim 44 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Pursuant to the present amendment, independent claim 38 has been amended to include the limitations from dependent claims 43 and 44. Thus, amended claim 38, and all claims depending therefrom, are believed to be in condition for immediate allowance. It should be understood that in making the amendments set forth herein, Applicants do not acquiesce in the appropriateness of the Examiner's rejections. Applicants specifically reserve the right to pursue claims of the scope set forth in the rejected claims in a later filed application should they desire to do so.

In the Office Action, claims 38, 40-41 and 43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Ryu (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0146888) in view of Riley (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0119647). Claims 39 and 42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as allegedly being unpatentable over Ryu and Riley in view of Wake (U.S. Patent No. 6,725,119). It is believed that the claim amendments in the present response render the Examiner's § 103 rejections moot. Withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections is respectfully requested.

It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are allowable over the art of record.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (713) 934-4055 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAMS, MORGAN & AMERSON CUSTOMER NO. 23720

Date: December 19, 2006

J. Mike Amerson/

J. Mike Amerson Reg. No. 35,426 10333 Richmond, Suite 1100 Houston, Texas 77042 (713) 934-4055 (713) 934-7011 (facsimile)

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS